

a1 15 (new). The heat-shrinkable tube according to claim 1, wherein said heat-shrinkable tube is formed by rolling a heat-shrinkable sheet into a cylindrical shape.

**REMARKS**

Entry of the present "Election and Preliminary Amendment", including new claim 15, in the record of the above-identified application by the PTO is requested.  
Examination of the above-identified application is requested.

The Office Action contains an "election/restriction" requirement. Responsive thereto, Applicants elect the embodiment of Figure 1 on which are readable claims 1 to 5, 11, 12 and 15. Applicants reserve the right to traverse the "election/restriction" requirement.

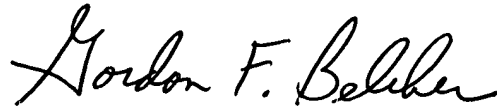
Entry of new claim 15 does not require an extra claims fee for the following reasons. Entry of new claim 15, and the foregoing election, will result in the pending claims being claims 1 to 5, 11, 12 and 15. The pending claims will thereby include one independent claim (claim 1) and seven dependent claims (claims 2 to 5, 11, 12 and 15).  
37 C.F.R. § 1.16(b), (c).

If any additional fee is required for entry of the present "Election and Preliminary Amendment" into the record of the above-identified application, please charge such fee to the Deposit Account No. 08-2776 of the below-identified firm.

The foregoing is submitted as being fully responsive to the Office Action. Accordingly, the above-identified application is submitted as being ready for examination and examination thereof is requested.

If the Examiner has any questions about the above, Applicants' Attorney Gordon F. Belcher is requested to be contacted at the below-identified telephone number. Additionally, please address all future correspondence to the below-identified address.

Respectfully submitted,



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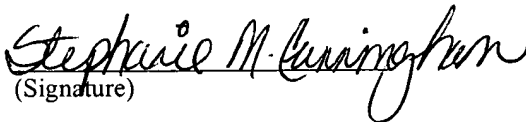
Certificate of Mailing Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.8

I hereby certify that this paper entitled "Election and Preliminary Amendment", and all attachments and enclosures referred to therein, are being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first-class mail, postage prepaid, in an envelope addressed to:

Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

on December 2, 2002  
(Date of Mailing)

Stephanie M. Cunningham  
(Name of person making deposit)

  
(Signature)